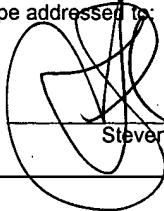




CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date below:

December 30, 2002
Date


Steven L. Highlander

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Thomas SPIES and Veronika SPIES

Serial No.: 09/855,612

Filed: May 14, 2001

For: CELL STRESS REGULATED HUMAN
MHC CLASS I GENE

Group Art Unit: 1644

Examiner: DECLOUX, Amy M.

Atty. Dkt. No.: FHCC:003USC1/SLH

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT DATED SEPTEMBER 10, 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

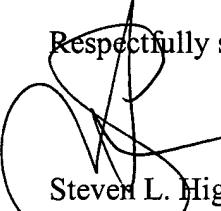
Commissioner:

This paper is submitted in response to the Restriction Requirement dated September 10, 2002 for which the date for response was October 10, 2002.

A request for a three-month extension of time to respond is included herewith along with the required fee. This three-month extension will bring the due date to January 10, 2003, which is within the six-month statutory period. Should such request or fee be deficient or absent, consider this paragraph such a request and authorization to withdraw the appropriate fee under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 from Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. Account No.: 50-1212/10105269/SLH.

In response to the restriction requirement which the Examiner imposed, Applicants elect, without traverse, to prosecute claims 1-25, *i.e.*, the Group I claims.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (512) 536-3184 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attorney for Applicants

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Date: December 30, 2002